



## California League of United Latin American Citizens

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*The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. Headquartered in Washington DC, with over 1000 councils around the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future.*

To: Commissioner Daniel Mark Mayeda (Co-Chair) Commissioner Carolyn Williams (Co-Chair) Commissioner Jean A. Franklin Commissioner David A. Holtzman Commissioner Mary Kenney Commissioner Mark Mendoza Commissioner Apolonio Morales Commissioner Nelson Obregon Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura Commissioner Hailes H. Soto, Commissioner Brian M. Stecher, PhD Commissioner John Patrick Kevin Vento Commissioner Doreena P. Wong

November 4, 2021

**Submitted electronically via**  
[commserv@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:commserv@bos.lacounty.gov)

Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission c/o The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk  
12400 Imperial Highway Norwalk, CA 90650

Re: Support 'Draft Map C' MALDEF plan

Dear Commissioners,

We want to commend the work of the Independent Redistricting Commission and Commission staff for bringing about this process and allowing for community voices to be heard. On behalf of the California League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), we would like to formally voice our support for Map option C submitted by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF).

We are writing this letter as the largest and oldest Latino Civil Rights organization, the California League of United Latin American Citizens. The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is a national civil rights organization that has been in existence for 90 years. Our mission is to address the educational attainment, economic condition, health, civil rights, and political empowerment of the Latino/a population. The League of United Latin American Citizens has always been committed to improving the redistricting process to ensure equitable and fair representation. In 2005, National LULAC submitted to the Supreme Court the "LULAC vs. Perry" Lawsuit challenging the Texas Legislature redistricting plan, because it violated the Voting Rights Act of the



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Latino community and impacted Latino representation. For years, we have advocated for significant reforms such as cosponsoring AB 849, the Fair and Inclusive Redistricting for Municipalities and Political Subdivisions (FAIR MAPS) act which called to reform the city and county redistricting process. We have cohosted workshops for several of our members engaged in giving Community of Interest testimony. Our organization has always strived to create a fair, representative, and inclusive redistricting process at both the state and local levels.

Our Latino populations have grown within the last decade as demonstrated in the 2020 United States Census. Notwithstanding the barriers put in place by the previous administration and that of the COVID-19 pandemic, our Latino communities are growing. A recent UCLA study by Paul Ong and Jonathan Ong of UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs found that LA County residents were most likely to have been excluded from the census count and “were from neighborhoods that were either predominantly Latino or consisted of immigrant communities.” Despite these obstacles put in place, the numbers demonstrate an opportunity to redraw district lines that are representative of the growing population which resides in Los Angeles County.

California LULAC supports Option C because it is the only map that fully respects all Los Angeles County’s communities. Option C unites communities that have much in common when it comes to socioeconomic status, culture, and language. Most importantly, Option C provides the Latino community with fair representation. Option C draws BOS 1 in the East San Gabriel Valley along the I-605, keeping the Gateway Cities united. Option C also draws a new Latino majority district, BOS 3, in the East San Fernando Valley along the I-5 to Lynnwood. Option C is the only map that fully respects the Latino community by providing the *immediate* opportunity to elect a candidate of choice in BOS 3. All other maps fall short of this goal, including those that draw two Latino majority CVAP districts. In fact, other maps actually put minority groups against each other. Option C is the only draft map that empowers Latinos in the East San Fernando Valley, a population that has never had a Latino representative on the Board of Supervisors.

Furthermore, Option C BOS 2, retains a historically Black district in South Los Angeles and Option C BOS 5 is a minority majority CVAP District which keeps together the API community in the West and Southeast San Gabriel Valley in the County. Notably, Option C BOS 5 does not put minority groups against each other in future electoral contests, rather, it gives them an opportunity to build coalition around a candidate of choice.

Los Angeles needs new district lines that reflect the growth and movement of all communities in Los Angeles County over the last decade. We cannot be bound by the status quo only because old district lines are familiar. This Commission can make history by adopting Option C. Should you have any questions for California LULAC, please feel free to contact Kimberly Fuentes at [kfuentes.lulac@gmail.com](mailto:kfuentes.lulac@gmail.com).



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Best,

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